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BMT yanında Daimi
Nümayəndəliyi**



**Permanent Mission of the
Republic of Azerbaijan
to the United Nations**

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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and with reference to the Secretary-General's Note Verbale UNW/2020/0002, dated 21 April 2020, has the honor submit the report prepared by the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the implementation of General Assembly resolution A/RES/73/146 on "Trafficking in women and girls".

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women the assurances of its highest consideration.



New York, 19 May 2020

The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women
New York

Information submitted by the Government of Azerbaijan with regard to the UN General Assembly Resolution A/RES/73/146 on “Trafficking in women and girls”.

Measures to address trafficking in women and girls, as per resolution 73/146, including on the increased efforts to ensure prosecution of traffickers and improve protection of victims (information for years 2018 and 2019):

As a result of carried out operational search measures in 2018, 35 crimes were registered on 144 human trafficking, 4 forced labor, as well as illegal acts relating to travel or identity documents with a purpose of human trafficking, and 13 criminal groups consisted of 28 people were rendered harmless. Also 34 persons or 67% were detained among 51 wanted persons. The investigation of 27 criminal cases on human trafficking and forced labor was completed, 34 accused persons (29 women, 5 men) were prosecuted, and 23 human traffickers were convicted. Of the 98 identified victims of human trafficking (82 women and 16 men, all nationals of the Republic of Azerbaijan), with a purpose of exploitation 71 were trafficked to the Republic of Turkey, 20 to the Russian Federation, 3 to the Islamic Republic of Iran, 2 to the United Arab Emirates and 1 to Malaysia and one was exploited within the country.

As a result of carried out operational search measures in 2019, 36 crimes were registered on 186 human trafficking, as well as 4 forced labor, also illegal acts relating to travel or identity documents with a purpose of human trafficking, and 4 criminal groups consisted of 10 people were rendered harmless. Also 19 persons or 54.3% were detained among 35 wanted persons. The investigation of 27 criminal cases on human trafficking and forced labor was completed, 27 accused persons (22 women, 5 men) were prosecuted, and taking into consideration prosecuted persons from previous years in total 42 human traffickers were convicted. Of the 91 identified victims of human trafficking (85 women and 5 men and one child, 89 of them were Azerbaijan nationals and 1 was Uzbekistan and 1 was Tajikistan nationals), with a purpose of exploitation 54 were trafficked to the Republic of Turkey, 16 to State of Qatar, 8 to the Islamic Republic of Iran, 5 to Russian Federation and 2 to the United Arab Emirates and 3 were exploited within the country.

According to the relevant decision of the Cabinet of Ministers, each of the victims was paid a one-time paid allowance of 400 manat until June 4, 2019, and from that date

this sum increased as 700 manat. In total 181, including 173 victims of human trafficking (95 in 2018 and 78 in 2019), 4 alleged victims of human trafficking (3 in 2018 and 1 in 2019) and 4 children of victims of human trafficking (2 children in 2018 and 2 children in 2019) were placed in the Shelter of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan. All of them were provided with medical, psychological and legal assistance. As a result, 46 of them were employed (32 people in 2018 and 14 people in 2019), 91 were sent to vocational courses (46 people in 2018 and 45 people in 2019), 127 were returned to their families (69 people in 2018 and 58 people in 2019).

Also, 50 victims of human trafficking were provided with legal assistance during the investigation (28 in 2018 and 22 in 2019), and 89 during court proceedings (42 in 2018 and 47 in 2019).

In accordance with the law, the safety of victims of trafficking have been ensured until the existing threat has been completely eliminated. Ensuring the protection of the rights and interests of the citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan who are victims of human trafficking by diplomatic missions and consulates abroad are always have been kept in the center of attention. We would like to inform you that the diplomatic missions and consulates accredited abroad have not received any information on the detection of citizens of the Republic of Azerbaijan who are victims of human trafficking for the past 2 years.

Information on economic costs, drivers and consequences of trafficking in women and girls:

A working legislative framework has been formed to ensure the effective fight against human trafficking and the expansion of opportunities to protect the rights of victims, and these measures are being continued. Operational situation in this field was kept under control by measures taken jointly with relevant government agencies, civil society institutions and international partners. Persons at risk were reliably protected from these crimes, and victims were provided with the necessary physical, psychological and social rehabilitation measures.

Expenditures required in this area have been financed from the state budget of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the relevant years, funds provided for the relevant executive bodies, extra-budgetary funds, grants, as well as other sources that do not contradict the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak in regards to trafficking in women and girls, and measures undertaken to address those in the short, medium and long-term, particularly in the following areas:

- Impact on risks for trafficking in women and girls;***
- Adaptation of service delivery to victims and survivors.***

In order to prevent the dangers of coronavirus disease and to carry out preventive and urgent measures, awareness of victims living in the Shelter of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, as well as their observing the rules of personal hygiene and rules for use of protective medical masks and keeping social distance between themselves have been provided. At the same time regular disinfection measures are carried out and other necessary measures are currently underway. In order to find out possible cases of new coronavirus infection among victims of human trafficking living in the Shelter necessary tests were taken from them but all results were negative. In general, no new cases of coronavirus infection have been reported among identified victims of trafficking.